

HB 723 -- SCHOOL EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM

SPONSOR: Walker (3)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Pensions by a vote of 10 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules - Administrative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

Currently, a retired teacher from the Kansas City Public School Retirement System can work part-time for a school district during a school year and not forfeit his or her retirement allowance. The retired teacher can work up to 600 hours and earn up to 50% of the annual salary received by the person while they were teaching prior to retirement.

The bill expands this provision to include someone who is employed by a third party or working as an independent contractor as a substitute teacher or other position normally requiring certification. Documentation may be required showing proof of compliance with this provision.

This bill is similar to HB 305 (2017), HB 1710 (2016), and HB 1085 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will prevent retired teachers from working more hours than allowed by law because they are working for a contractor providing teaching services. Currently, retired teachers can work more than the 550 hours as a teacher without losing his or her allowance if he or she is employed through a job service. This will close that loop hole.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walker and Christine Gierer, Kansas City Public School Retirement System.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.